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# $L^p$ polyharmonic Dirichlet problems in regular domains II: The upper half plane

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## ABSTRACT

In this article, we consider a class of Dirichlet problems with  $L^p$  boundary data for polyharmonic functions in the upper half plane. By introducing a sequence of new kernel functions called higher order Schwarz kernels, integral representation solutions of the problems are given.

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## 1. Introduction

The best and most desirable way of solving a BVP (boundary value problem) for a partial differential equation is to obtain an explicit solution formula in terms of the given boundary data. When this is impossible or too hard to do, one turns to deal with the existence and estimates of the solutions [13]. In recent years, the study of explicit solutions of BVPs has undergone a new phase of development ([1–8,10,11,14–16,20] and references therein). These include Dirichlet, Neumann, Schwarz and Robin problems for harmonic, biharmonic, polyharmonic and polyanalytic equations in regular domains (in the unit disc: [1,2,4,7,8,11]; and in the upper half plane: [3,5,6,10]) and in irregular domains (Lipschitz domains: [5,16,20]).

The purpose of this article is to solve the following polyharmonic Dirichlet problem (for short, PHD problem) for  $L^p$  data in the upper half plane,  $\mathbf{H}$ , i.e.

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$$\begin{cases} \Delta^n u = 0 & \text{in } \mathbf{H}, \\ \Delta^j u = f_j & \text{on } \mathbb{R}, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\mathbb{R}$  is the real axis,  $f_j \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 \leq j < n$ , and  $p \geq 1$ . By introducing a series of new kernel functions, we will give potential solutions of the PHD problems (1.1). The kernel functions are higher order analogs of the classical Schwarz kernel for the upper half plane (see next section). To the authors' knowledge, this work is the first to give integral representations of the solutions of the BVPs for polyharmonic equations in the  $L^p$  setting. There have been studies on such BVPs ([1–8,10, 14–16,20] and references therein), those, however, do not present a complete and coherent integral representation theory except for some special cases ([1–4,6–8,10] and references therein).

## 2. Sequence of consecutive Schwarz kernels

**Definition 2.1.** (See [7].) A sequence of real-valued functions of two variables  $\{G_n(\cdot, \cdot)\}_{n=1}^\infty$  defined on  $\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R}$  is called a sequence of *consecutive Schwarz kernels*, and, precisely,  $G_n(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the *n*th order Schwarz kernel, if they satisfy the following conditions.

1. For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $G_n(\cdot, \cdot) \in C(\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R})$ ;  $G_n(\cdot, t) \in C^{2n}(\mathbf{H})$  with any fixed  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ; and  $G_n(z, \cdot) \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $p > 1$ , with any fixed  $z \in \mathbf{H}$ , and the non-tangential boundary value

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} G_n(z, t) = G_n(s, t)$$

exists for all  $t$  and  $s \neq t$ ;  $G_n(\cdot, t)$  can be continuously extended to  $\bar{\mathbf{H}} \setminus \{t\}$  for any fixed  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ;

2.  $G_1(z, t) = \frac{1}{2i}(\frac{1}{t-z} - \frac{1}{\bar{t}-\bar{z}})$  and  $G_n(i, t) = 0$ ,  $n \geq 2$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , and for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$|G_n(z, t)| \leq \frac{M}{|t - z'|}$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \mathbb{R}: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$ , where  $D_c$  is any compact set in  $\bar{\mathbf{H}}$ ,  $M$ ,  $T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$  and  $n$ ;

3.  $(\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}})G_1(z, t) = 0$  and  $(\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}})G_n(z, t) = G_{n-1}(z, t)$  for  $n > 1$ ;
4.  $\lim_{z \rightarrow s, z \in \mathbf{H}} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_1(z, t) \gamma(t) dt = \gamma(s)$ , a.e., for any  $\gamma \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $p \geq 1$ ;
5.  $\lim_{z \rightarrow s, z \in \mathbf{H}} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_n(z, t) \gamma(t) dt = 0$  for any  $\gamma \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $p \geq 1$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,

where all limits are non-tangential [19].

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $D$  be a simply connected (bounded or unbounded) domain in the plane with smooth boundary  $\partial D$ , and  $H(D)$  denote the set of all analytic functions in  $D$ . If  $f$  is a continuous function defined on  $D \times \partial D$  satisfying  $f(\cdot, t) \in H(D)$  for any fixed  $t \in \partial D$ , and  $f(z, \cdot) \in L^p(\partial D)$ ,  $p \geq 1$ , (or  $C_0(\partial D)$  if  $\partial D$  is a boundless curve, i.e., a closed curve passing through  $\infty$ ) for any fixed  $z \in D$ , then  $f$  is called  $H \times L^p$  (or  $H \times C_0$ ) on  $D \times \partial D$  and this is denoted by  $f \in (H \times L^p)(D \times \partial D)$  (or  $(H \times C_0)(D \times \partial D)$ ). Likewise,  $(H \times C)(D \times \partial D)$  may be similarly defined.

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $D$  be a simply connected unbounded domain in the plane with smooth boundless boundary  $\partial D$ . If  $f$  is defined on  $D \times \partial D$  that is analytic in  $D$  for any fixed  $t \in \partial D$  and

$$|f(z, t)| \leq M \frac{1}{|t - z'|} \quad (2.1)$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \partial D: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$ , where  $D_c$  is any compact set in  $D$ , and  $M$ ,  $T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ , then for any fixed  $z_0 \in D$ , the primitive function

$$F(z, t) = \int_{z_0}^z f(\zeta, t) d\zeta, \quad z \in D, \quad t \in \partial D, \quad (2.2)$$

enjoys the same properties as  $f$ .

**Proof.** It is trivial to show the analyticity of  $F(z, t)$  with respect to  $z$  in  $D$  for each fixed  $t \in \partial D$  [18]. Then the inequality part of the lemma follows from

$$|F(z, t)| \leq \int_{\gamma_{[z_0, z]}} |f(\zeta, t)| |d\zeta| \quad (2.3)$$

since  $\gamma_{[z_0, z]} \cap D_c$  is compact for any simple curve  $\gamma_{[z_0, z]}$  in  $D$  that connects  $z_0 \in D$  with  $z \in D_c$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4.** Let  $D$  be a simply connected unbounded domain in the plane with smooth boundless boundary  $\partial D$ . If  $f \in (H \times L^p)(D \times \partial D)$  and

$$|f(z, t)| \leq M \frac{1}{|t - z'|}$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \partial D: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$ , where  $D_c$  is any compact set in  $D$ , and  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ , then for any fixed  $z_0 \in D$ , the primitive function

$$F(z, t) = \int_{z_0}^z f(\zeta, t) d\zeta \quad (2.4)$$

is also in  $(H \times L^p)(D \times \partial D)$ .

**Proof.** Since  $f \in (H \times L^p)(D \times \partial D)$ , from Lemma 2.3,  $F(z, t)$  is analytic in  $z \in D$  with any fixed  $t \in \partial D$ . By Minkowski's inequality for integrals [12,17],

$$\begin{aligned} \|F(z, \cdot)\|_p &= \left( \int_{\partial D} |F(z, t)|^p |dt| \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq \int_{\gamma_{[z_0, z]}} \left| \int_{(\partial D)_T \cup C(\partial D)_T} |f(\zeta, t)|^p |dt| \right|^{1/p} |d\zeta| \\ &\leq \int_{\gamma_{[z_0, z]}} \left| \int_{(\partial D)_T} |f(\zeta, t)|^p |dt| \right|^{1/p} |d\zeta| + \int_{\gamma_{[z_0, z]}} \left| \int_{C(\partial D)_T} \frac{M^p}{|t - z_0|^p} |dt| \right|^{1/p} |d\zeta| \\ &< +\infty, \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

where  $\gamma_{[z_0, z]}$  is any simple curve from  $z_0$  to  $z$  in  $D$  which is compact in  $D$ ,  $(\partial D)_T = \{t \in \partial D: |t| \leq T\}$  and  $C(\partial D)_T = \{t \in \partial D: |t| > T\}$ ,  $T$  and  $M$  are positive constants depending only on  $\gamma_{[z_0, z]}$  by the condition (2.1) for  $f$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $D$  be a simply connected unbounded domain in the plane with smooth boundless boundary  $\partial D$ . Suppose that  $f \in (H \times L^p)(D \times \partial D)$ , the non-tangential boundary value

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} f(z, t) = f(s, t) \quad (2.6)$$

exists on  $\partial D$  except  $t \in \partial D$ , and  $f(s, \cdot) \in L^p(\partial D)$  for any fixed  $s \in \partial D$ . For any fixed  $t \in \partial D$ ,  $f(\cdot, t)$  can be continuously extended to  $\bar{D} \setminus \{t\}$ . Moreover,

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} |f(z, s)| = +\infty \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} |(z - s)f(z, s)| = 0 \quad (2.7)$$

for any  $s \in \partial D$ , and

$$|f(z, t)| \leq M \frac{1}{|t - z'|}$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \partial D: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$  which is any compact set in  $\bar{D}$ , where  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ . Then, for any fixed  $z_0 \in D$ , the primitive function

$$F(z, t) = \int_{z_0}^z f(\zeta, t) d\zeta, \quad z \in D, t \in \partial D,$$

enjoys the same properties as  $f$  does.

**Proof.** By the assumption,  $f(\cdot, t)$  can be continuously extended to  $\bar{D} \setminus \{t\}$  for any fixed  $t \in \partial D$ . Therefore, for any  $z_0 \in D$  and fixed  $t \in \partial D$ , we can define

$$F(s, t) = \int_{z_0}^s f(\zeta, t) d\zeta \quad \text{whenever } s \neq t, s \in \partial D. \quad (2.8)$$

Let  $n_s = (x_s, y_s)$  be the unit inner normal vector at  $s$  of  $\partial D$  and  $N_s = x_s + iy_s$ . For any  $0 < \alpha < \pi/2$ , denote

$$\vee_\alpha(s) = \left\{ z \in D: \arccos\left(\frac{\Re\{(z - s)\bar{N}_s\}}{|z - s|}\right) < \alpha \right\} \quad (2.9)$$

as a pseudo-cone with vertex  $s$  and opening angle  $\alpha$  in  $D$ . Due to the fact that  $f(z, t)$  is continuous on  $\vee_\alpha(s) \cup \{s\}$ ,  $s \neq t$ , it is clear that

$$|F(z, t) - F(s, t)| \leq \int_{\gamma[z, s]} |f(\zeta, t)| |d\zeta| \leq l\{\gamma[z, s]\} \max_{\zeta \in \gamma[z_0, s]} |f(\zeta, t)|, \quad (2.10)$$

where  $z \in \vee_\alpha(s)$  and  $\gamma[z, s] \subset \gamma[z_0, s] \subset \bar{D}$  for any  $z_0 \in D$  and  $0 < \alpha < \pi/2$ . Thus  $F(z, t)$  has the non-tangential boundary value  $F(s, t)$  given by (2.8).

By the first limit of (2.7), it is easy to get that

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} |F(z, s)| = +\infty.$$

For any fixed  $z_0 \in D$ , define

$$L(z, s) = |z - s| \max_{\zeta \in \gamma[z_0, z]} |f(\zeta, s)|, \quad (2.11)$$

where  $z \in \bar{D} \setminus \{s\}$ . Since by (2.7),

$$\begin{aligned} L(z, s) &= |z - s| |f(z^*, s)| = \left| \frac{z - s}{z^* - s} \right| |(z^* - s) f(z^* - s)| \\ &\leq |z^* - s| |f(z^*, s)| \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

in which  $z^* = z^*(z) \in \gamma[z_0, z]$  as  $z$  is sufficiently close to  $s$ . Note that in this case  $z^*$  is also sufficiently close to  $s$ . If not,  $z^*(z) \rightarrow z_1 \in \vee_\alpha(s)$  as  $z \rightarrow s$ . However, by the continuity of  $f(\cdot, s)$ ,  $f(z^*, s) \rightarrow f(z_1, s)$  as  $z^* \rightarrow z_1$ . This observation leads to the following contradiction to the first limit of (2.7),

$$|f(z, s)| \leq \max_{\zeta \in \gamma[z_0, z]} |f(\zeta, s)| = |f(z^*(z), s)| \leq |f(z_1, s)| + 1 < +\infty$$

for any  $z$  sufficiently closing to  $s$ . Therefore,

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} L(z, s) = 0. \quad (2.13)$$

Noting that

$$\begin{aligned} |(z - s)F(z, s)| &= \left| (z - s) \int_{z_0}^z f(\zeta, s) d\zeta \right| \\ &\leq |z - s| \int_{\gamma[z_0, z]} |f(\zeta, s)| |d\zeta| \\ &\leq l\{\gamma[z_0, z]\} |z - s| \max_{\zeta \in \gamma[z_0, z]} |f(\zeta, s)| \\ &\leq l\{\gamma[z_0, s]\} L(z, s), \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

it immediately follows that

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} |(z - s)F(z, s)| = 0. \quad (2.15)$$

Finally, by the assumptions, taking the same arguments as in Lemmas 2.3–2.4, it is easy to prove that  $F(s, \cdot) \in L^p(\partial D)$  for any fixed  $s \in \partial D$  and

$$|F(z, t)| \leq M \frac{1}{|t - z'|}$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \partial D: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$  which is any compact set in  $\bar{D}$ , where  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.6.** Let  $D, \partial D, f$  be as in Lemma 2.5. Then for any  $\gamma \in L^p(\partial D)$ ,  $p \geq 1$ ,

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} \int_{\partial D} (z-s) f(z, t) \gamma(t) dt = 0. \quad (2.16)$$

**Proof.** If  $p > 1$ , then  $q = \frac{p}{p-1} > 1$ . By Hölder's inequality, both  $f(z, \cdot) \gamma(\cdot)$  and  $f(s, \cdot) \gamma(\cdot)$  belong to  $L^1(\partial D)$  for any fixed  $z \in D$  and  $s \in \partial D$ . For  $p = 1$ , the assumption implies that  $f(z, \cdot), f(s, \cdot) \in C_0(\partial D) \subset L^\infty(\partial D)$ . Therefore, both  $f(z, \cdot) \gamma(\cdot)$  and  $f(s, \cdot) \gamma(\cdot)$  also belong to  $L^1(\partial D)$ .

For any  $s \in \partial D$  and  $0 < \alpha < \pi/2$ , define

$$U_{s,\alpha}(z, t) = \begin{cases} (z-s)f(z, t), & t \neq s, \\ 0, & t = s, \end{cases} \quad (2.17)$$

where  $z \in \vee_\alpha(s)$  and  $t \in \partial D$ . Note that  $f \in C(D \times \partial D)$  and  $f(\cdot, s) \in C(\bar{D} \setminus \{s\})$  for any fixed  $s \in \partial D$ , then from (2.7),  $U_{s,\alpha} \in C(\vee_\alpha(s) \times \partial D)$ . Then there exists  $\eta > 0$  such that

$$|U_{s,\alpha}(z, t)| < 1 \quad (2.18)$$

for any  $z \in D$  and  $t \in \partial D$  satisfying  $|z-s| \leq \eta$  and  $|t-s| \leq \eta$  respectively. Fix such  $\eta$ ; by the assumption, we have that

$$|f(z, t)| \leq \frac{M}{|t-z'|} \quad (2.19)$$

uniformly on  $\nabla_{\alpha,\eta}(s) \times \{t \in \partial D: |t-s| \geq T\}$ , where  $z' \in \nabla_{\alpha,\eta}(s) = \{z \in \vee_\alpha(s): |z-s| \leq \eta\}$ ,  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $\nabla_{\alpha,\eta}(s)$ . By splitting,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial D} (z-s) f(z, t) \gamma(t) dt &= \int_{|t-s| \leq \eta, t \in \partial D} U_{s,\alpha}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \\ &\quad + (z-s) \int_{\eta \leq |t-s| \leq T, t \in \partial D} f(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \\ &\quad + (z-s) \int_{|t-s| > T, t \in \partial D} f(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \end{aligned} \quad (2.20)$$

in which  $z \in \nabla_{\alpha,\eta}(s)$ . Moreover, from (2.6) and (2.7),

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \bar{D}, s \in \partial D}} (z-s) f(z, t) \gamma(t) = 0, \quad \text{a.e. } t \in \partial D. \quad (2.21)$$

Thus, by Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem, (2.16) follows from (2.17)–(2.21) and the fact  $f \in C(\nabla_{\alpha,\eta}(s) \times \{t \in \partial D: \eta \leq |t-s| \leq T\})$  for arbitrary  $\alpha > 0$ .  $\square$

Higher order Schwarz kernels are the key in our program to solve the PHD problems (1.1). By the decomposition theorem of polyharmonic functions [8] and the above proved lemmas, we have the following

**Theorem 2.7.** If  $\{G_n(z, t)\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is a sequence of higher order Schwarz kernels defined on  $\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R}$ , i.e.,  $\{G_n(z, t)\}_{n=1}^\infty$  fulfills the aforementioned properties 1–5 in Definition 2.1, then, for  $n > 1$ , there exist functions  $G_{n,0}(z, t), G_{n,1}(z, t), \dots, G_{n,n-1}(z, t)$  defined on  $\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$G_n(z, t) = 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (\bar{z} + i)^j G_{n,j}(z, t) \right\}, \quad z \in \mathbf{H}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad (2.22)$$

with

$$\partial_z G_{n,j}(z, t) = j^{-1} G_{n-1,j-1}(z, t) \quad (2.23)$$

for  $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ ,

$$\partial_z^k G_{n,j}(i, t) = 0 \quad (2.24)$$

for  $0 \leq k \leq j-1$  with respect to  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and

$$G_{n,0}(z, t) = - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (z + i)^j G_{n,j}(z, t). \quad (2.25)$$

Moreover,

$$G_1(z, t) = \frac{1}{2i} \left( \frac{1}{t-z} - \frac{1}{t-\bar{z}} \right) \quad (2.26)$$

is the classical Schwarz kernel for the upper half plane. All of the above  $G_{n,j} \in (H \times L^p)(\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R})$ , the non-tangential boundary value

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} G_{n,j}(z, t) = G_{n,j}(s, t) \quad (2.27)$$

exists on  $\mathbb{R}$  except  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $G_{n,j}(s, \cdot) \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$  for any fixed  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ . We can further show that  $G_{n,j}(\cdot, t)$  can be continuously extended to  $\bar{\mathbf{H}} \setminus \{t\}$  for any fixed  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , and

$$|G_{n,j}(z, t)| \leq M \frac{1}{|t - z'|} \quad (2.28)$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \mathbb{R}: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$  which is any compact set in  $\bar{\mathbf{H}}$ , where  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ . Moreover,

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} |G_{n,j}(z, s)| = +\infty \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} |(z-s)G_{n,j}(z, s)| = 0 \quad (2.29)$$

for any  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $n \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** The property 3 indicates that  $G_n(z, t)$  is polyharmonic in  $\mathbf{H}$ . By the decomposition theorem of polyharmonic functions in [8], (2.22) holds with (2.23)–(2.25), where  $G_{n,j}(z, t)$  is defined on  $\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R}$ , analytic in  $\mathbf{H}$  with respect to  $z$  and has at least a  $j$ th order zero at  $z = i$  for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $n \geq 2$ .

When  $G_1(z, t)$  is given by (2.26), it is known that  $G_1(z, \cdot) \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$  for any  $z \in \mathbf{H}$  and  $p \geq 1$ , and the property 4 in Definition 2.1 also holds [19]. Starting from  $G_{1,0}(z, t) = \frac{1}{2i} \frac{1}{t-z}$  and using (2.23)–(2.25), all  $G_{n,j}$  and  $G_n$  can be inductively obtained (see the algorithm given after this theorem).

The following facts are noted. Firstly,  $G_{1,0} \in (H \times L^p)(\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R})$ ; secondly, the non-tangential boundary value

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} G_{1,0}(z, t) = G_{1,0}(s, t) \quad (2.30)$$

exists on  $\mathbb{R}$  except  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $G_{1,0}(s, \cdot) \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$  for any fixed  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ ; thirdly,  $G_{1,0}(\cdot, t)$  can be continuously extended to  $\bar{\mathbf{H}} \setminus \{t\}$  for any fixed  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ; and fourthly,

$$\begin{aligned} |G_{1,0}(z, t)| &= \frac{1}{2|t-z|} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{\frac{1}{|t-z'|}}{1 - \frac{|z-z'|}{|t-z'|}} \\ &\leq M \frac{1}{|t-z'|} \end{aligned}$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \mathbb{R}: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$  which is any compact set in  $\bar{\mathbf{H}}$ , where  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ . Therefore, by Lemmas 2.3–2.5 and an induction argument, we can show that, for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $0 \leq j \leq n-1$ ,  $G_{n,j} \in (H \times L^p)(\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R})$ ; the non-tangential boundary value

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} G_{n,j}(z, t) = G_{n,j}(s, t)$$

exists on  $\mathbb{R}$  except  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $G_{n,j}(s, \cdot) \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$  for any fixed  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ ;  $G_{n,j}(\cdot, t)$  can be continuously extended to  $\bar{\mathbf{H}} \setminus \{t\}$  for any fixed  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ; and

$$|G_{n,j}(z, t)| \leq M \frac{1}{|t-z'|}$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \mathbb{R}: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$  which is any compact set in  $\bar{\mathbf{H}}$ , where  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ . Obviously,  $G_{n,j}(z, t)$  has at least a  $j$ th order zero at  $z = i$  for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Moreover,

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} |G_{n,j}(z, s)| = +\infty \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} |(z-s)G_{n,j}(z, s)| = 0$$

for any  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  in terms of Lemma 2.5 since  $G_{2,1}$  has the same properties by using straightforward calculations.



By (2.22) and (2.25),

$$\begin{aligned} G_n(z, t) &= 2\Re \left\{ (\bar{z} - z) \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sum_{l=0}^{j-1} (\bar{z} + i)^{j-1-l} (z + i)^l G_{n,j}(z, t) \right\} \\ &= 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sum_{l=0}^{j-1} (\bar{z} + i)^{j-1-l} (z + i)^l [(\bar{z} - s) - (z - s)] G_{n,j}(z, t) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $z \in \mathbf{H}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for any fixed  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ .

From the above facts, by Minkowski's inequality and Lemma 2.6, all  $G_n$  satisfy the properties 1, 2 and 5, i.e., the non-tangential limit

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_n(z, t) \gamma(t) dt = 0 \quad (2.31)$$

holds for any  $n \geq 2$  and  $\gamma \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $p \geq 1$ .  $\square$

In fact, following from Theorem 2.7, we can establish an algorithm to obtain all explicit expressions of higher order Schwarz kernels as follows.

For  $n = 1$ ,

$$G_{1,0}(z, t) = \frac{1}{2i} \frac{1}{t - z}, \quad (2.32)$$

therefore

$$G_1(z, t) = 2\Re \{ G_{1,0}(z, t) \} = \frac{1}{2i} \left( \frac{1}{t - z} - \frac{1}{t - \bar{z}} \right) = \frac{z - \bar{z}}{2i} \frac{1}{|t - z|^2} = \frac{y}{(x - t)^2 + y^2}. \quad (2.33)$$

For  $n = 2$ ,

$$G_{2,1}(z, t) = \int_i^z G_{1,0}(\zeta, t) d\zeta = \frac{1}{i} \int_i^z \frac{1}{t - \zeta} d\zeta = \frac{1}{2i} \log \frac{t - i}{t - z}, \quad (2.34)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} G_{2,0}(z, t) &= -(z + i)G_{2,1}(z, t) = -\frac{z + i}{2i} \log \frac{t - i}{t - z} \\ &= -(z - t)G_{2,1}(z, t) - (t + i)G_{2,1}(z, t), \end{aligned} \quad (2.35)$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} G_2(z, t) &= 2\Re \{ G_{2,0}(z, t) + (\bar{z} + i)G_{2,1}(z, t) \} \\ &= 2\Re \{ -(z + i)G_{2,1}(z, t) + (\bar{z} + i)G_{2,1}(z, t) \} \\ &= 2\Re \{ (\bar{z} - z)G_{2,1}(z, t) \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 2\Re \left\{ \frac{\bar{z} - z}{2i} \log \frac{t - i}{t - z} \right\} \\
&= \frac{z - \bar{z}}{2i} \log \left| \frac{t - z}{t - i} \right|^2 \\
&= y \log \frac{(x - t)^2 + y^2}{t^2 + 1}.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.36}$$

For  $n = 3$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{3,2}(z, t) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_i^z G_{2,1}(\zeta, t) d\zeta = \frac{1}{4i} \int_i^z \log \frac{t - i}{t - \zeta} d\zeta \\
&= \frac{1}{4i} \left[ (z - t) \log \frac{t - i}{t - z} + (z - i) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (z - t) G_{2,1}(z, t) + \frac{1}{4i} (z - i) \\
&= \frac{0!}{2!} (z - t) G_{2,1}(z, t) + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 1 \times 2i} (z - i) \\
&= \frac{1}{2! \times 2i} (z - t) \log \frac{t - i}{t - z} + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 1 \times 2i} (z - i),
\end{aligned} \tag{2.37}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{3,1}(z, t) &= \int_i^z G_{2,0}(\zeta, t) d\zeta = - \int_i^z (\zeta + i) G_{2,1}(\zeta, t) d\zeta \\
&= - \int_i^z (\zeta - t) G_{2,1}(\zeta, t) d\zeta - (t + i) \int_i^z G_{2,1}(\zeta, t) d\zeta \\
&= - \int_i^z (\zeta - t) G_{2,1}(\zeta, t) d\zeta - 2(t + i) G_{3,2}(z, t) \\
&= -2 \int_i^z (\zeta - t) \partial_\zeta G_{3,2}(\zeta, t) d\zeta - 2(t + i) G_{3,2}(z, t) \\
&= -2(z - t) G_{3,2}(z, t) + 2 \int_i^z G_{3,2}(\zeta, t) d\zeta - 2(t + i) G_{3,2}(z, t) \\
&= -2(z - t) G_{3,2}(z, t) + 3! \times G_{4,3}(z, t) - 2(t + i) G_{3,2}(z, t) \\
&= -(z - t) G_{3,2}(\zeta, t) - 2(t + i) G_{3,2}(\zeta, t) + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2 \times 2i} (z - i)^2 \\
&= -(z + t + 2i) G_{3,2}(\zeta, t) + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2 \times 2i} (z - i)^2,
\end{aligned} \tag{2.38}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{3,0}(z, t) &= -(z+i)G_{3,1}(z, t) - (z+i)^2G_{3,2}(z, t) \\
&= -(z+i)[G_{3,1}(z, t) + (z+i)G_{3,2}(z, t)] \\
&= -(z+i)[G_{3,1}(z, t) + ((z-t) + (t+i))G_{3,2}(z, t)] \\
&= (z+i)\left[(t+i)G_{3,2}(z, t) - \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2 \times 2i}(z-i)^2\right] \\
&= (t+i)(z+i)G_{3,2}(z, t) - \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2 \times 2i}(z+i)(z-i)^2, \tag{2.39}
\end{aligned}$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
G_3(z, t) &= 2\Re\{(\bar{z}-z)[G_{3,1}(z, t) + (\bar{z}+z+2i)G_{3,2}(z, t)]\} \\
&= 2\Re\left\{(\bar{z}-z)\left[(\bar{z}-t)G_{3,2}(z, t) + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2 \times 2i}(z-i)^2\right]\right\} \\
&= 2\Re\left\{(\bar{z}-z)\left[\frac{1}{2!}|z-t|^2G_{2,1}(z, t) + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 1 \times 2i}\right.\right. \\
&\quad \left.\left.\times (\bar{z}-t)(z-i) + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2 \times 2i}(z-i)^2\right]\right\} \\
&= 2\Re\left\{(\bar{z}-z)\left[\frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2i}|z-t|^2 \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} + \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 1 \times 2i}(\bar{z}-t)(z-i)\right.\right. \\
&\quad \left.\left.+ \frac{1}{2! \times 1! \times 2 \times 2i}(z-i)^2\right]\right\} \\
&= \frac{y}{2}\left[(x-t)^2 + y^2\right] \log \frac{(x-t)^2 + y^2}{t^2 + 1} + 2xt - 3x^2 - y^2 + 1. \tag{2.40}
\end{aligned}$$

In general, we have a unified expression of all  $G_{n,n-1}$  as well  $G_n$  stated in the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.8.** Let  $G_{n,n-1}$  and  $G_n$  be stated as in Theorem 2.7, then for any  $n > 2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{n,n-1}(z, t) &= \frac{(n-3)!}{(n-1)!}(z-t)G_{n-1,n-2}(z, t) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times (n-2) \times 2i}(z-i)^{n-2} \\
&= \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i}(z-t)^{n-2} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \\
&\quad + \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i}(z-t)^{n-2-j}(z-i)^j \tag{2.41}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
G_n(z, t) &= 2\Re\left\{(\bar{z}-z)\left[\frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i}|z-t|^{2(n-2)} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z}\right.\right. \\
&\quad \left.\left.+ \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i}(\bar{z}-t)^{n-2}(z-t)^{n-2-j}(z-i)^j\right]\right\}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \sum_{l=0}^{2(n-2)-j} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \binom{n-2}{l} \\
& \times (\bar{z} - z)^l (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l-j} (z - i)^j \Bigg] \Bigg\} \\
& = 2\Re \left\{ (\bar{z} - z) \left[ \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} |z - t|^{2(n-2)} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \right. \right. \\
& + \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-2} (z - t)^{n-2-j} (z - i)^j \\
& + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \sum_{l=j}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \binom{n-2}{l-j} \\
& \left. \left. \times (\bar{z} - z)^{l-j} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z - i)^j \right] \right\}, \tag{2.42}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $z \in \mathbf{H}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Proof.** At first, we consider (2.41). Obviously, it follows from (2.23) and (2.25) when  $n = 3$  (see (2.37)). Suppose that for  $n > 4$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{n-1,n-2}(z, t) &= \frac{(n-4)!}{(n-2)!} (z - t) G_{n-2,n-3}(z, t) \\
&+ \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times (n-3) \times 2i} (z - i)^{n-3} \\
&= \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (z - t)^{n-3} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \\
&+ \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (z - t)^{n-3-j} (z - i)^j.
\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{n,n-1}(z, t) &= \frac{1}{n-1} \int_i^z G_{n-1,n-2}(\zeta, t) d\zeta \\
&= \frac{(n-4)!}{(n-1)!} \int_i^z (\zeta - t) G_{n-2,n-3}(\zeta, t) d\zeta + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times (n-3) \times 2i} (z - i)^{n-2} \\
&= \frac{(n-4)! \times (n-2)}{(n-1)!} \int_i^z (\zeta - t) \partial_\zeta G_{n-1,n-2}(\zeta, t) d\zeta \\
&+ \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times (n-3) \times 2i} (z - i)^{n-2}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{(n-4)! \times (n-2)}{(n-1)!} (z-t) G_{n-1,n-2}(z,t) - \frac{1}{(n-3) \times (n-1)} \int_i^z G_{n-1,n-2}(\zeta,t) d\zeta \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times (n-3) \times 2i} (z-i)^{n-2} \\
&= \frac{(n-3)!}{(n-1)!} (z-t) G_{n-1,n-2}(z,t) + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times (n-2) \times 2i} (z-i)^{n-2} \\
&= \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (z-t)^{n-2} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \\
&\quad + \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} (z-t)^{n-2-j} (z-i)^j.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by induction, (2.41) holds for any  $n > 2$ .

Next, we turn to (2.42). Let

$$H_n(z,t) = \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} |z-t|^{2(n-2)} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \quad (2.43)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
T_n(z,t) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-2-j} (z-i)^j \\
&\quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \sum_{l=j}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \binom{n-2}{l-j} \\
&\quad \times (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j,
\end{aligned} \quad (2.44)$$

therefore

$$G_n(z,t) = 2\Re[(\bar{z}-z)(H_n(z,t) + T_n(z,t))]. \quad (2.45)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} G_n(z,t) &= 2\Re\{(\bar{z}-z)\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} H_n(z,t) + (\partial_z - \partial_{\bar{z}})H_n(z,t)\} \\
&\quad + 2\Re\{(\bar{z}-z)\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} T_n(z,t) + (\partial_z - \partial_{\bar{z}})T_n(z,t)\}.
\end{aligned} \quad (2.46)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_z H_n(z,t) &= \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3}
\end{aligned} \quad (2.47)$$

and

$$\partial_{\bar{z}} H_n(z, t) = \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-2} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z}, \quad (2.48)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_z - \partial_{\bar{z}}) H_n(z, t) &= \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3} \\ &\times (\bar{z} - z) \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-2} (z - t)^{n-3} \end{aligned} \quad (2.49)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} H_n(z, t) &= \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3} \\ &\times \left[ (n-2) \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} - 1 \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (2.50)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} &(\bar{z} - z) \partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} H_n(z, t) + (\partial_z - \partial_{\bar{z}}) H_n(z, t) \\ &= (\bar{z} - z) \left[ \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \right] \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - z) (\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3} \quad (\spadesuit) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-2} (z - t)^{n-3}. \quad (\clubsuit) \end{aligned} \quad (2.51)$$

On the other hand, since

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_z T_n(z, t) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-2} (z - t)^{n-3-j} (z - i)^j \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-2} (z - t)^{n-3} \\ &\quad - \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \\ &\quad \times (l-j) \binom{n-2}{l-j} (\bar{z} - z)^{l-j-1} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z - i)^j \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j}^{2(n-2)-1} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \\ &\quad \times (2(n-2) - l) \binom{n-2}{l-j} (\bar{z} - z)^{l-j} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l-1} \\ &\quad \times (z - i)^j + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \sum_{l=j}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times j \binom{n-2}{l-j} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^{j-1} \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3} \\
& \quad - \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times (l-j) \binom{n-2}{l-j} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times (2(n-2)-l+1) \binom{n-2}{l-j-1} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \sum_{j=n-2}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times (j+1) \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times (j+1) \binom{n-2}{l-j-1} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3} \\
& \quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times \binom{n-2}{l-j-1} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \sum_{l=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} \binom{n-2}{l-n+1} \\
& \quad \times (\bar{z}-z)^{l-n+1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^{n-2} \tag{2.52}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_{\bar{z}} T_n(z, t) & = \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-2-j} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times j \times 2i}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times (l-j) \binom{n-2}{l-j} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-2-j} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times \binom{n-3}{l-j-1} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j, \tag{2.53}
\end{aligned}$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
(\partial_z - \partial_{\bar{z}})T_n(z, t) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times (\bar{z}-z)(\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3} \\
& \quad - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-i)^{n-2} \\
& \quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times \left[ \binom{n-2}{l-j-1} - \binom{n-3}{l-j-1} \right] (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \sum_{l=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} \binom{n-2}{l-n+1} \\
& \quad \times (\bar{z}-z)^{l-n+1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^{n-2} \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-z)(\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3} \\
& \quad - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-i)^{n-2} \\
& \quad + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-2} \sum_{l=j+2}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \quad \times \binom{n-3}{l-j-2} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j
\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{l=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} \binom{n-2}{l-n+1} \\
& \times (\bar{z}-z)^{l-n+1} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^{n-2}
\end{aligned} \tag{2.54}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} T_n(z, t) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (n-2) (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3} \\
& + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-2} \sum_{l=j+2}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \times (l-j-1) \binom{n-2}{l-j-1} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-2} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} \\
& \times (z-i)^j + \sum_{l=n}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (l-n+1) \\
& \times \binom{n-2}{l-n+1} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-n} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^{n-2} \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (n-2) (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3} \\
& + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-2} \sum_{l=j+2}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \times (n-2) \binom{n-3}{l-j-2} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j-2} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& + \sum_{l=n}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (n-2) \binom{n-3}{l-n} \\
& \times (\bar{z}-z)^{l-n} (z-t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z-i)^{n-2}.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.55}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\bar{z}-z) \partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} T_n(z, t) + (\partial_z - \partial_{\bar{z}}) T_n(z, t) \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-z) (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-z) (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-2} (z - t)^{n-3} \\
& - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - i)^{n-2} \\
& + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-2} \sum_{l=j+2}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \times \binom{n-3}{l-j-2} (\bar{z} - z)^{l-j-1} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z - i)^j \\
& + \sum_{l=n}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} \left[ \binom{n-2}{l-n+1} + (n-2) \binom{n-3}{l-n} \right] \\
& \times (\bar{z} - z)^{l-n+1} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z - i)^{n-2} \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (z - t)^{n-3} (z - i)^{n-2} \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z} - z)(\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3-j} (z - i)^j \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - z)(\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3} \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-2} (z - t)^{n-3} \\
& - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - i)^{n-2} \\
& + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-2)-2} \sum_{l=j+2}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \times \binom{n-3}{l-j-2} (\bar{z} - z)^{l-j-1} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z - i)^j \\
& + \sum_{l=n}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times (n-2) \times 2i} \binom{n-3}{l-n} \\
& \times (\bar{z} - z)^{l-n+1} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z - i)^{n-2} \\
& + \sum_{l=n-1}^{2(n-2)} \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} \binom{n-3}{l-n+1} \\
& \times (\bar{z} - z)^{l-n+1} (z - t)^{2(n-2)-l} (z - i)^{n-2} \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z} - z)(\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3-j} (z - i)^j \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z} - z)(\bar{z} - t)^{n-3} (z - t)^{n-3}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3} \\
& - \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-i)^{n-2} \quad (\diamond) \\
& + \sum_{j=n-1}^{2(n-3)} \sum_{l=j}^{2(n-3)} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \times \binom{n-3}{l-j} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j+1} (z-t)^{2(n-3)-l} (z-i)^j \\
& + \sum_{l=n-2}^{2(n-3)} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times (n-2) \times 2i} \binom{n-3}{l-n+2} \\
& \times (\bar{z}-z)^{l-(n-2)+1} (z-t)^{2(n-3)-l} (z-i)^{n-2} \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} \left[ \sum_{l=0}^{n-3} \binom{n-3}{l} (\bar{z}-z)^l (z-t)^{n-3-l} \right] (z-i)^{n-2} \quad (\diamond) \\
& = \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-z)(\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-z)(\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3} \quad (\spadesuit) \\
& + \frac{1}{(n-1)! \times (n-2)! \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-2} (z-t)^{n-3} \quad (\clubsuit) \\
& + \sum_{j=n-2}^{2(n-3)} \sum_{l=j}^{2(n-3)} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \\
& \times \binom{n-3}{l-j} (\bar{z}-z)^{l-j+1} (z-t)^{2(n-3)-l} (z-i)^j. \quad (2.56)
\end{aligned}$$

It is noteworthy that, in all of the above calculations, we properly use the following elementary properties of binomial coefficients:

$$\binom{n-1}{k-1} = \binom{n-1}{n-k}, \quad \binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k-1} \quad \text{and} \quad k \binom{n}{k} = n \binom{n-1}{k-1} \quad (2.57)$$

as  $n \geq k \geq 1$ .

Inserting (2.51) and (2.56) into (2.46) and taking the terms marked by  $(\spadesuit)$  and  $(\clubsuit)$  into account, gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} G_n(z, t) &= 2\Re \left\{ (\bar{z}-z) \left[ \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times 2i} |z-t|^{2(n-3)} \log \frac{t-i}{t-z} \right. \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + \sum_{j=1}^{n-3} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} (\bar{z}-t)^{n-3} (z-t)^{n-3-j} (z-i)^j \right] \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{j=n-2}^{2(n-3)} \sum_{l=j}^{2(n-3)} \frac{1}{(n-2)! \times (n-3)! \times j \times 2i} \binom{n-3}{l-j} \\
& \times (\bar{z} - z)^{l-j} (z - t)^{2(n-3)-l} (z - i)^j \Bigg] \Bigg\} \\
& = G_{n-1}(z, t).
\end{aligned}$$

Then (2.42) holds by a backward induction. Thus we have completed the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

### 3. Polyharmonic Dirichlet problems in the upper half plane

In this section, we solve the PHD problems (1.1), i.e.,

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^n u = 0 & \text{in } \mathbf{H}, \\ \Delta^j u = f_j & \text{on } \mathbb{R}, \end{cases}$$

where  $\mathbf{H}$  is the upper half plane,  $\mathbb{R}$  is the real axis,  $f_j \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 \leq j < n$  and  $p \geq 1$ .

To do so, also as a special case extension of Theorem 2.27 in [9], we need the following

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $D$  be a simply connected unbounded domain in the plane with smooth boundless boundary  $\partial D$ . If  $f \in (H \times L^1)(D \times \partial D)$  and there exists  $g \in L^p(\partial D)$ ,  $p \geq 1$ , such that*

$$|f(z, t)| \leq M \frac{g(t)}{|t - z_0|} \quad (3.1)$$

*uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \partial D: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z_0 \in D_c$  which is any compact set in  $D$ , where  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ . Then*

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \int_{\partial D} f(z, t) dt \right) = \int_{\partial D} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z, t) dt. \quad (3.2)$$

**Proof.** Fix  $z_0 \in D$ , take any sequence  $\{z_l\}_{l=1}^{+\infty}$  such that  $\lim_{l \rightarrow +\infty} z_l = z_0$  and  $z_l \neq z_0$  for all  $l$ . Since  $f \in (H \times L^1)(D \times \partial D)$ , denote

$$\begin{aligned}
D_l(z_0, t) &= \frac{f(z_l, t) - f(z_0, t)}{z_l - z_0} \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\zeta - z_0| = R} \frac{f(\zeta, t)}{(\zeta - z_l)(\zeta - z_0)} d\zeta,
\end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

then by the assumption,

$$\begin{aligned}
|D_l(z_0, t)| &\leq \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\zeta - z_0| = R} \frac{|f(\zeta, t)|}{|\zeta - z_l|} \frac{d\zeta}{|\zeta - z_0|} \\
&\leq \frac{2M}{R} \frac{g(t)}{|t - z_0|}
\end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

uniformly in  $\{t \in \partial D: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z_l \in \{\zeta: |\zeta - z_0| < R/2\} \subset \{\zeta: |\zeta - z_0| < R\} \subset D$ . Since

$$\lim_{l \rightarrow +\infty} D_l(z_0, t) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z_0, t), \quad t \in \partial D, \quad (3.5)$$

by the continuity of  $f$  on compact set  $\gamma_{[z_0, z]} \times (\partial D)_T$  (recall that  $(\partial D)_T = \{t \in \partial D: |t| \leq T\}$ ) and Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem,

$$\lim_{l \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\partial D} D_l(z_0, t) dt = \int_{\partial D} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z, t) dt, \quad (3.6)$$

i.e.,

$$\lim_{l \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\int_{\partial D} f(z_l, t) dt - \int_{\partial D} f(z_0, t) dt}{z_l - z_0} = \int_{\partial D} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z, t) dt. \quad (3.7)$$

Since  $z_0$  and the sequence  $\{z_l\}_{l=1}^{+\infty}$  are arbitrarily chosen, then

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \int_{\partial D} f(z, t) dt \right) = \int_{\partial D} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z, t) dt. \quad \square$$

From the above lemma, we can obtain an important theorem concerning differentiability of integrals of higher order Schwarz kernels as follows.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $\{G_n(z, t)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be the sequence of higher order Schwarz kernels defined on  $\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R}$ , then for any  $n > 1$  and  $\gamma \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $p \geq 1$ ,

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_n(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{n-1}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt. \quad (3.8)$$

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.7, for any  $n > 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} G_n(z, t) &= 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (\bar{z} + i)^j G_{n,j}(z, t) \right\} \\ &= 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} [(\bar{z} + i)^j - (z + i)^j] G_{n,j}(z, t) \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

where all  $G_{n,j}(z, t)$  fulfill that

$$j \partial_z G_{n,j}(z, t) = G_{n-1,j-1}(z, t) \quad (3.10)$$

and

$$|G_{n,j}(z, t)| \leq M \frac{1}{|t - z'|}$$

uniformly on  $D_c \times \{t \in \mathbb{R}: |t| > T\}$  whenever  $z' \in D_c$  which is any compact set in  $\bar{\mathbf{H}}$ , where  $M, T$  are positive constants depending only on  $D_c$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_n(z, t) \gamma(t) dt &= 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (\bar{z} + i)^j \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{n,j}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right\} \\
&= 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} [(\bar{z} + i)^j - (z + i)^j] \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{n,j}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right\}. \quad (3.11)
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, by Lemma 3.1,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_n(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \left\{ [(\bar{z} + i)^j - (z + i)^j] \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \partial_z G_{n,j}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right. \\
&\quad \left. - j(z + i)^{j-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{n,j}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right. \\
&\quad \left. + j(z - i)^{j-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \overline{G_{n,j}(z, t) \gamma(t)} dt \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_n(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \left\{ (\bar{z} + i)^{j-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (j \partial_z G_{n,j}(z, t)) \gamma(t) dt \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (z - i)^{j-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \overline{(j \partial_z G_{n,j}(z, t)) \gamma(t)} dt \right\} \\
&= 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (\bar{z} + i)^j \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{n-1,j-1}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right\} \\
&= 2\Re \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{n-2} (\bar{z} + i)^j \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{n,j}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt \right\} \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{n-1}(z, t) \gamma(t) dt. \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

Now we can give the main result for polyharmonic Dirichlet problems in the upper half plane as follows.

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $\{G_n(z, t)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be the sequence of higher order Schwarz kernels defined on  $\mathbf{H} \times \mathbb{R}$ , then for any  $n \geq 1$ , the PHD problem (1.1) is solvable and its general solution is given by

$$u(z) = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{4^j}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_j(z, t) f_{j-1}(t) dt + u_h(z), \quad (3.12)$$

where  $u_h(z)$  denotes the general solution of the accompanying homogeneous PHD problem

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^n u = 0 & \text{in } \mathbf{H}, \\ \Delta^j u = 0 & \text{on } \mathbb{R}. \end{cases} \quad (3.13)$$

**Proof.** Note the inductive property of the higher order Schwarz kernels stated as in Definition 2.1, and let the polyharmonic operators  $\Delta^l$ ,  $1 \leq l \leq n-1$ , act on the two sides of (3.12); by Theorem 3.2, we have

$$\Delta^l u(z) = \sum_{j=l+1}^n \frac{4^{j-l}}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_{j-l}(z, t) f_{j-1}(t) dt + \Delta^l u_h(z) \quad (3.14)$$

since the Laplacian  $\Delta = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}}$ . Thus, since  $\Delta^l u_h = 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\Delta^l u(s) = f_l(s), \quad s \in \mathbb{R}, \quad 0 \leq l \leq n-1, \quad (3.15)$$

follows from (2.31) and the nice property of  $G_1$ , i.e.,

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow s \\ z \in \mathbf{H}, s \in \mathbb{R}}} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_1(z, t) \gamma(t) dt = \gamma(s) \quad (3.16)$$

for any  $\gamma \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $p \geq 1$ . Similarly, letting the polyharmonic operator  $\Delta^n$  act on the two sides of (3.12), we have  $\Delta^n u(z) = 0$  for any  $z \in \mathbf{H}$ . Thus (3.12) is a solution of the PHD problem (1.1).

Denote

$$u^*(z) = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{4^j}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_j(z, t) f_{j-1}(t) dt. \quad (3.17)$$

The above argument shows that  $u^*$  is a special solution of the PHD problem (1.1). Since  $u_h$  is general solution of the accompanying homogeneous PHD problem (3.13), then it is immediate from linear algebra that (3.12) is the general solution of the PHD problem (1.1).  $\square$

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